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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02355 171118Z

10
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-11 ACDA-05 TRSE-00

OPR-02 OC-05 CCO-00 CU-02 PER-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 SNM-02

/096 W
---------- 045513
O 171048Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9042
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2355

DELIVER TO NEA/ARN/DRAPER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS.

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE
SUBJ: 0900 LEBANON REPORT

1. CITY MUCH QUIETER THIS MORNING. WE UNDERSTAND SOME SNIPING CONTINUES IN MANY AREAS ALONG CITY'S BORDER BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND MOSLEM SECTIONS, BUT FOR EXAMPLE HOTEL DISTRICT-KANTARI HAS BEEN ALMOST ENTIRELY STILL SINCE LAST NIGHT. COLLATERAL REPORTING INDICATES SOME SHOOTING IN ZGHORTA-TRIPOLI AREAS AS WELL AS POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE IN COUNTRYSIDE BUT GENERALLY WEAPONS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN STILLED WHILE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE IN DAMASCUS AND HERE. THERE WERE NEVERTHELESS
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SOME MORE OF THE USUAL INCIDENTS OF KIDNAPPING

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AND MURDER YESTERDAY. MANY ROADS LEADING INTO CITY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY PLOUGHED UP THE SAIQA-PLA TO PREVENT CLASH BETWEEN ARMY FORCES OF AHDAB-KHATIB AND THOSE UNDER FRANGIE.

2. WORD TODAY IS THAT KHADDAM WILL POBABLY NOT COME TO BEIRUT UNTIL MORE PROGRESS IS MADE AT CONSULTATIONS WHICH AT PRESENT ARE CENTERED IN DAMASCUS. RUMOR HAS IT 1952 PRECEDENT IS BEING DISCUSSED MOST INTENSELY, WHEN PRESIDENT RESIGNED IN FAVOR OF A MARONITE PRIME MINISTER WHO PRESIDED OVER GOVERNMENT TUNIL NEW PRESIDENT WAS ELECTED. RAYMOND EDDE AND OTHERS HAVE PURLISHED THEIR OWN PARTICULAR SCHEMES. PIERRE EDDE, RAYMOND'S BROTHER, HAS BEEN ADDED TO LIST OF POTENTIAL POSSIBILITIES.

3. CLASSES AT AUB WERE SUSPENDED TODAY UNTILNEXT TUESDAY DUE TO SECURITY SITUAION. ACS REMAINS OPEN ON VERY LIMITED BASIS. A NUMBER OF PRISONS WERE RAIDED YESTERDAY AND AS MANY AS 1300 MALE AND FEMALE CONVICTS WERE SET FREE. THIS INCLUDES SOME FAMOUS MURDERERS AS WELL AS A FEW AMERICANS ON DRUG CHARGES. WE SHALL TRY TO REPATRIATE AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.
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